

SENATE BILL 516

Unofficial Copy
O4

1999 Regular Session
(9lr1759)

ENROLLED BILL
-- Finance/Ways and Means --

Introduced by **Senators Hoffman, Lawlah, Hogan, Kasemeyer, Neall,
DeGrange, and Van Hollen**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth~~, Youth, and Families**

3 FOR the purpose of creating a Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth~~, Youth, and
4 Families; specifying the membership and tenure of the Committee; providing for
5 the appointment of cochairmen of the Committee; establishing that the full
6 authorized membership of the Committee is a quorum; providing staff for the
7 Committee; requiring the Committee to hold certain meetings; authorizing the
8 Committee to hold certain hearings and consider certain votes on certain bills or
9 resolutions; establishing the powers and duties of the Committee; requiring the
10 Committee to submit a certain report by a certain date each year; defining a
11 certain term; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
12 the Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth~~, Youth, and Families.

13 BY adding to

14 Article - State Government

15 Section 2-10A-06

1 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

3 Preamble

4 WHEREAS, The Maryland Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families has
5 identified the following key conditions of well-being for Maryland children ~~and youth,~~
6 youth, and families; babies born healthy, healthy children, children entering school
7 ready to learn, children successful in school, children completing school, children safe
8 in their families and communities, stable and economically independent families, and
9 communities that support family life; and

10 WHEREAS, Maryland's overall ranking on key indicators for children ~~and~~
11 ~~youth, youth, and families~~ by the Maryland Kids Count Partnership continues to be
12 very low relative to other states; and

13 WHEREAS, Many factors affecting the conditions of well-being for Maryland
14 children ~~and youth,~~ youth, and families involve the work of many different existing
15 committees of the Senate and the House; and

16 WHEREAS, A Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth,~~ Youth, and Families will
17 provide an integrated focus on factors affecting the health, education, safety, and
18 economic well-being of Maryland children ~~and youth,~~ youth, and families; and

19 WHEREAS, A Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth,~~ Youth, and Families can
20 facilitate the work of existing committees of the Senate and the House; and

21 WHEREAS, A Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth,~~ Youth, and Families can
22 help the General Assembly provide a result-oriented focus on the well-being of
23 Maryland children ~~and youth,~~ youth, and families; and

24 WHEREAS, A Joint Committee on Children ~~and Youth,~~ Youth, and Families can
25 recommend changes in law and budgeting that can improve key indicators for
26 Maryland children ~~and youth,~~ youth, and families; now, therefore,

27 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
28 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

29 **Article - State Government**

30 2-10A-06.

31 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "CONDITIONS OF WELL-BEING" MEANS THE DESIRED
32 RESULTS IDENTIFIED BY THE MARYLAND PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH,
33 AND FAMILIES BASED UPON IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND USED TO IMPROVE QUALITY.

34 (B) THERE IS A JOINT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN ~~AND YOUTH,~~ YOUTH, AND
35 FAMILIES.

36 (C) THE COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING 20 MEMBERS:

1 (1) FROM THE SENATE:

2 (I) THE MAJORITY LEADER;

3 (II) THE MINORITY LEADER; AND

4 ~~(III) EIGHT OTHER SENATORS, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT~~
 5 ~~FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES THAT DEAL WITH~~
 6 ~~ISSUES AFFECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH; AND~~

7 (III) TWO MEMBERS FROM EACH OF THE FOUR STANDING
 8 COMMITTEES; AND

9 (2) FROM THE HOUSE:

10 (I) THE MAJORITY LEADER;

11 (II) THE MINORITY LEADER; AND

12 (III) EIGHT OTHER DELEGATES APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER FROM
 13 AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEES THAT DEAL WITH ISSUES
 14 AFFECTING CHILDREN ~~AND YOUTH~~, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES.

15 (D) (1) MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE APPOINTED ON THE BASIS
 16 OF DEMONSTRATED ABILITY AND INTEREST CONCERNING ISSUES AFFECTING
 17 CHILDREN ~~AND YOUTH~~, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES.

18 (2) IN MAKING APPOINTMENTS, THE PRESIDENT AND THE SPEAKER
 19 SHALL PROVIDE FOR REPRESENTATION FROM:

20 (I) THE COMMITTEES THAT DEAL WITH ISSUES AFFECTING
 21 CHILDREN ~~AND YOUTH~~, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES; AND

22 (II) THE MAJOR AREAS OF THE STATE.

23 (E) (1) (I) MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED AFTER THE TWO HOUSES AND
 24 THEIR COMMITTEES ORGANIZE DURING EACH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL
 25 ASSEMBLY AND SHALL SERVE UNTIL THE HOUSES AND COMMITTEES ORGANIZE
 26 DURING THE FOLLOWING REGULAR SESSION A MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE
 27 PRESIDENT SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE PRESIDENT.

28 (II) A MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER SERVES AT THE
 29 PLEASURE OF THE SPEAKER.

30 (2) (I) IF A VACANCY OCCURS AMONG THE SENATORS ON THE
 31 COMMITTEE, A SUCCESSOR PROMPTLY SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT.

32 (II) IF A VACANCY OCCURS AMONG THE DELEGATES ON THE
 33 COMMITTEE, A SUCCESSOR PROMPTLY SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER.

1 (F) (1) FROM AMONG THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE, THE
2 PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT A SENATOR TO SERVE AS THE SENATE CHAIRMAN OF
3 THE COMMITTEE AND THE SPEAKER SHALL APPOINT A DELEGATE TO SERVE AS THE
4 HOUSE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE.

5 (2) THE SENATE CHAIRMAN AND THE HOUSE CHAIRMAN SHALL
6 ALTERNATE ANNUALLY AS PRESIDING CHAIRMAN AND COCHAIRMAN OF THE
7 COMMITTEE.

8 (G) A MAJORITY OF THE FULL AUTHORIZED MEMBERSHIP OF THE
9 COMMITTEE IS A QUORUM.

10 (H) THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES, OFFICE OF POLICY
11 ANALYSIS, SHALL PROVIDE STAFF ASSISTANCE TO THE COMMITTEE.

12 (I) THE COMMITTEE SHALL HOLD:

13 (1) AN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING PROMPTLY AFTER THE
14 APPOINTMENT OF ITS MEMBERS; AND

15 (2) ANY OTHER MEETINGS THAT THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERS
16 NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES EFFICIENTLY.

17 (J) THE COMMITTEE MAY:

18 (1) HOLD A HEARING ON ANY MATTER RELATING TO THE FUNCTIONS OF
19 THE COMMITTEE; AND

20 (2) CONSIDER A VOTE ON A BILL OR RESOLUTION REFERRED TO IT BY
21 THE PRESIDENT OR THE SPEAKER.

22 (K) IN ADDITION TO ANY POWERS AND DUTIES SET FORTH ELSEWHERE, IN AN
23 ENDEAVOR TO ACHIEVE CONDITIONS OF WELL-BEING FOR MARYLAND CHILDREN
24 ~~AND YOUTH, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES~~, THE COMMITTEE SHALL:

25 (1) INVESTIGATE THE PROBLEMS THAT JEOPARDIZE THE WELL-BEING
26 OF MARYLAND CHILDREN ~~AND YOUTH, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES~~;

27 (2) IDENTIFY STATE POLICIES AND ACTIONS THAT, IN CONJUNCTION
28 WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERS AND IN SUPPORT OF FAMILIES AND
29 COMMUNITIES, CAN WORK TO ACHIEVE CONDITIONS OF WELL-BEING FOR
30 MARYLAND CHILDREN ~~AND YOUTH, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES~~;

31 (3) REVIEW AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ALIGN STATE
32 STATUTES, REGULATIONS, PROGRAMS, SERVICES, AND BUDGETARY PRIORITIES
33 WITH THE STATE POLICIES AND ACTIONS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS
34 SUBSECTION;

1 (4) SEARCH FOR ANY INTERDEPARTMENTAL GAPS, INCONSISTENCIES,
2 AND INEFFICIENCIES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OR ATTAINMENT OF THE STATE
3 POLICIES AND ACTIONS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION;

4 (5) IDENTIFY ANY NEW LAWS, REGULATIONS, PROGRAMS, SERVICES,
5 AND BUDGETARY PRIORITIES THAT ARE NEEDED TO ENSURE AND PROMOTE
6 DESIRED CONDITIONS OF WELL-BEING FOR MARYLAND CHILDREN ~~AND YOUTH,~~
7 YOUTH, AND FAMILIES;

8 (6) SERVE AS AN INFORMATIONAL RESOURCE FOR THE SENATE AND
9 THE HOUSE ON LEGISLATIVE POLICY MATTERS CONCERNING CHILDREN ~~AND~~
10 ~~YOUTH,~~ YOUTH, AND FAMILIES; AND

11 (7) PERFORM OTHER ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING IMPROVING PUBLIC
12 AWARENESS OF THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF MARYLAND CHILDREN ~~AND YOUTH,~~ YOUTH,
13 AND FAMILIES.

14 (L) (1) SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THIS TITLE, THE COMMITTEE SHALL SUBMIT
15 AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF
16 EACH YEAR.

17 (2) THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE:

18 (I) A DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE; AND

19 (II) ANY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 ~~October~~ June 1, 1999. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end
22 ~~of September 30, 2002~~ May 31, 2002, with no further action required by the General
23 Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.